GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3258
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2015
Irregularities in Award of Contracts under ICDS Scheme
Chavan Shri Harishchandra Deoram

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any irregularity noticed/reported in awarding the contract for procurement of goods like medicines, kits etc. under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme in various States and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the procedures for awarding contracts have been streamlined and instructions issued to all the States/UTs for adhering and if so, the details and compliance status thereof; and
(c) the measures taken to make the purchase more transparent and maintain quality control?

Answer

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme implemented by all States/UTs across the country. The implementation responsibilities including procurement of programme components like Medicine Kits, Pre-School Education Kits, Weighing Scales etc. and Take Home Ration (THR) under Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) rest with the States/UTs. Complaints are received alleging irregularities in procurement of Supplementary Nutrition Food under ICDS Scheme. Recently, complaints received pertain to Maharashtra (8), Uttar Pradesh (4), Madhya Pradesh (2), Delhi (3), Odisha (1), and Uttarakhand (1).
(b) to (c) Ministry of Women and Child Development has issued an advisory dated 08.07.2015 to all States/UTs to strictly follow e-Procurement procedure for procurement of goods and services under ICDS Scheme to ensure transparency and efficiency. Separately, States/UTs. have also been emphasized vide Circular dated 23.06.2015 to put in place a system to ensure quality and hygiene of food being supplied under ICDS Scheme by adhering to SNP Guidelines issued on 24.02.2009 and 09.05.2012.
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